

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-12 ADP-00 EA-11 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 SCI-06 GAC-01 NSF-04 MBFR-03

SAJ-01 RSR-01 /148 W

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P R 251744 Z MAY 73

FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2924

INFO AEC GERMANTOWN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

US MISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L IAEA VIENNA 4415

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM EEC IAEA IT

SUBJ: ITALIAN BID FOR DESIGNATED " MOST ADVANCED" SEAT ON
IAEA BOARD

REF: (A) STATE 94850 (B) ROME 3563

1. ITALIAN RESREP TALIANI DISCUSSED WITH ME MAY 24 PROSPECTS
FOR EXPANSION OF IAEA BOARD IN NEAR FUTURE BASED ON APPROVAL
OF ARTICLE VI AMENDMENT BY MEMBER STATES. HE OPTIMISTIC
THAT AMEMDMENT WILL BE APPROVED BY REQUISITE 70 MEMBER STATES
(67 HAVE ALREADY RATIFIED) IN TIME FOR DESIGNATION OF NINE
MOST ADVANCED MEMBER STATES AT JUNE BOARD MEETING OR AT SPECIAL
BOARD MEETING SHORTLY THEREAFTER.

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2. TALIANI REPORTED GOI COMMENCING DIPLOMATIC EFFORT IN CAPITALS OF THE PRESENT 25 BOARD MEMBER STATES TO SECURE SUPPORT FOR CONSENSUS ACCEPTANCE OF ITALY FOR INCLUSION AMONG THE NINE DESIGNATED " MOST ADVANCED" STATES. HE ASKED SPECIFICALLY FOR US SUPPORT.

3. I SAID I WOULD REPORT HIS APPROACH TO WASHINGTON AND ASSUME U. S. DECISION WOULD BE COMMUNICATED BY DEPARTMENT AT TIME OF ITALIAN DEMARCHE.

4. I THEN ASKED TALIANI TO CLARIFY FOR ME ITALIAN DECISION ON SEPARATING NPT AND IAEA- EURATOM SAFEUGARDS AGREEMENT FOR RATIFICATION PURPOSES AS REPORTED REFTEL B. HE EXPLAINED THAT SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT WAS FELT TO BE RELATIVELY NON- CONTROVERSIAL MATTER WHICH WOULD NOT MEET WITH SERIOUS RESISTANCE WITHIN ITALIAN GOVERNING COALITION; SAME COULD NOT BE SAID ON NPT EVEN THOUGH IT WAS PROBABLY NOT A SIGNIFICANT ISSUE IN A PUBLIC OPINION SENSE.

5. I EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT CONTINUED DELAY IN NPT RATIFICATION WOULD HOLD BACK THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EURATOM- IAEA AGREEMENT ON WHICH SO MUCH DEPENDED. HE SUGGESTED THAT THIS WAS ONE OF NUMBER OF REASONS FOR NEW ITALIAN APPROACH TO THE RATIFICATION PROCESS. THE ITALIANS HAD IN MIND, AND COULD SEE NO LEAGL REASON AGAINST, PUTTING THE NPT SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT INTO FORCE EVEN PRIOR TO RATIFICATION OF NPT. IF THIS PRECEDURE WERE ACCEPTABLE TO OTHER EURATOM STATES COVERED BY THE SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT, THE AGREEMENT WOULD THEN BECOME OPERATIONAL IN ALL STATES AND IAEA SAFEGUARDS COULD COMMENCE. HE COULD NOT SAY WHETHER OTHER EURATOM STATES HAD YET ACCEPTED THIS APPROACH BUT SAID THAT ITALY HAD OPPORTUNITY TO TALK WITH GERMANS AND DUTCH BUT BELGIAN RESIDENT REP TOLD US TODAY THAT GOB HAD TAKEN NO POSITION ON MATTER PENDING SOME CLARIFICATION FROM THE ITALIANS AND CONSULTATIONS WITH THE OTHER MEMBERS STATES.)

6. I SUGGESTED TALIANI THAT GOI MIGHT BE WELL ADVISED TO INFORM RUSSIANS OF THIS PROPOSED APPROACH AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. IN OUR CONVERSATIONS WITH SOVIET MISSION HERE WE DITECT CONSIDERABLE UNEASINESS ABOUT SLOW RATE OF ITALIAN PROGRESS TOWARD NPT RATIFICATION WHICH WOULD DELAY COMING INTO FORCE OF EURATOM SAFEGUARD AGREEMENT. IF ITALIANS HAVE A PRATICAL AND SALEABLE ANSWER TO THIS PROBLEM THEY SHOULD INFORM BOARD MEMBERS SUCH AS USSR
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WHICH MUST TAKE DECISION TO ACCEPT DESIGNATION OF ITALIANS AS DESIGNATED MEMBER OF THE BOARD IN THE ABSENCE OF ITALIAN RATIFICATION OF NPT. TALIANI SAID HE AGREED THAT APPROACH TO SOVIETS DESIRABLE AND WOULD SO RECOMMEND.

7. HE ALSO ASKED USG TO BE PREPARED TO REBUT A POSSIBLE SOVIET CHALLENGE AT JUNE BOARD MEETING TO ITALIAN CLAIM FOR DESIGNATION TO BOARD SEAT. I SAID I DOUBTED THAT SOVIETS WOULD MAKE PUBLIC CHALLENGE IF ITALIANS GAVE THEM EFFECTIVE PRIVATE REASSURANCE. IF REASSURANCE NOT EFFECTIVE, I ASSUMED ITALIANS WOULD ALSO BE APPROACHING FELLOW EURATOM MEMBERS, BELGUIM AND FRG (BOTH ON THE BOARD) FOR SUPPORT IN EVENT OF CHALLENGE. ALSO, IF U. S. WERE TO MAKE A PUBLIC STATEMENT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO RECEIVE FROM GOI A PRECISE TEXT OF WHAT WE COULD SAY WITH RESPECT TO ITALIAN TIME- TABLE FOR RATIFICATION. TALIANI AGREED TO REQUEST THIS FROM ROME.

8. IAEA DIRECTOR GENERAL EKLUND TOLD ME MAY 25 TALIANI HAD ALSO BRIEFED HIM ON ITALIAN PLANS. WHEN EKLUND ASKED WHEN SAFE-GUARDS AGREEMENT COULD BE RATIFIED UNDER PROPOSED PROCEDURE, TALIANI TOLD HIM IT COULD NOT RPT NOW POSSIBLE BE THIS YEAR AND HE DID NOT SAY WHEN NEXT YEAR (OR THE YEAR AFTER) IT MIGHT OCCUR. EKLUND COMMENTED THAT IN VIEW OF THAT STATEMENT HE WAS NOT IMPRESSED BY ITALIAN SUCCESS IN ADVANCING THEIR RATIFICATION TIMETABLE. HE TOLD ME HE WAS DEEPLY WORRIED BY WHAT HE KNOWS OF SOVIET ATTITUDE TOWARD ADVANCED STATUS FRO ITALY IN ABSENCE OF NPT ACTION OR EVEN COMMITMENT TO ACTION, AND HE FEARS " REAL TROUBLE" AT JUNE 12 BOARD MEETING.

9. COMMENT. I HAVE NOT YET DISCUSSED DESIGNATIONS OF ADVANCED SEATS UNDER AMEMDED STATUTE WITH SOVIET MISSION, AND THERFORE HAVE NO INFORMATION TO SUPPORT OR REFUTE EKLUND' S FEARS. SO FAR WE HAVE HAD ONLY SOVIET EXPRASSIONS OF CONCERN ABOUT DALAY IN ITALIAN RATIFICATION, UNLINKED TO BOARD MEMBERSHIP- A POSITION QUITE SIMILAR IN FACT TO OUR OWN. DESIGNATIONS WILL OF COURSE BE DISCUSSED AT OUR USUAL PRE- BOARD CONSULTATIONS WITH SOVIETS. PORTER

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